

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4435
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2008
REDUCTION OF ENTRY FEE OF TAJ MAHAL
Bhargav Shri Girdhari Lal

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently notified reduction in the entry fee for Taj Mahal in Agra from Rs.750/- to Rs.20/- for tourists from SAARC countries like Myanmar and Thailand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the entry fee was earlier shared between Archaeological Survey of India and the Agra Development Authority in the ratio of the Rs.50/- and Rs.700/- respectively;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Agra Development Authority has contested the reduction in entry fee for SAARC nationals and wants its earlier share restored;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the notification has since been revised; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE(SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI)

- (a)&(b) Through a notification dated 5th March, 2008, the Archaeological Survey of India has brought the entry fee in respect of citizens of SAARC and BIMSTEC countries at par with Indian citizens.
- (c)&(d) At Taj Mahal, ASI charges entry fee @Rs.10/- from Indian visitors and nationals of SAARC and BIMSTEC countries. Foreigners of other nationalities are charged @Rs.250/-. The Agra Development Authority charges Rs.500/- from each foreign national including citizens of SAARC and BIMSTEC countries and Rs.10/- from Indian visitors as Toll Tax (Path-kar).
- (e)&(f) The notification issued by the Archaeological Survey of India applies only to ASI's entry fee and not to the tax charged by the Agra Development Authority.
- (g) No, Sir.
- (h) Question does not arise.